



WH-WHAT'S THIS ALL OF A
SUDDEN?! WHY DID HE GET
SO CLOSE? SO CLOSE,
SO CLOSE, SO CLOSE!!
I CAN FEEL HIS BREATH
HANGING ON ME, AND EVEN
HIS BODY TEMPERATURE?!
AND HE SMELLS LIKE BOOZE!
WHY AM I BEING STARED AT
BY MY DAD WITH ZERO
DISTANCE BETWEEN US? IT'S
A LITTLE TOO LATE TO BE
GUSHING ABOUT HOW ALIKE
WE LOOK!? NO, THIS IS
SCARY, IT GOES BEYOND
SCARY, IT'S TERRIFYING,
WHAT IS THIS DREAD?



Hyaah!



THAT'S
WHAT
POLARIS IS
FEELING.

KEITAROU,
THAT
ANXIETY...
THAT DIS-
COMFORT
YOU'RE
FEELING
RIGHT
NOW...




PEOPLE
NEED A CERTAIN
DEGREE OF
DISTANCE
BETWEEN ONE
ANOTHER IN
ORDER TO BE
COMFORTABLE.



PERSONAL
SPACE,
YOU MEAN?


A
DEGREE
OF...
...DIS-
TANCE...



IT
MAKES
PEOPLE
UNCOMFORTABLE
WHEN SOMEONE
COMES IN
CLOSER THAN
APPROPRIATE
BASED
ON THEIR
RELATION-
SHIP...

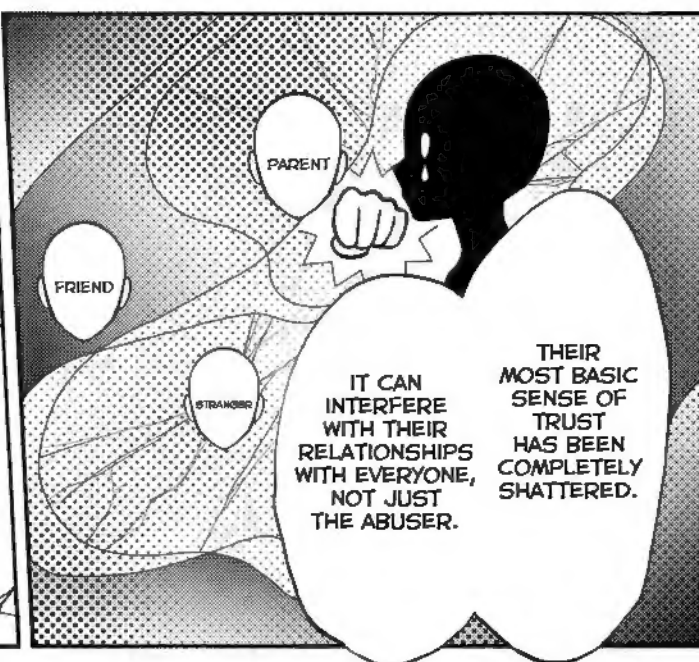
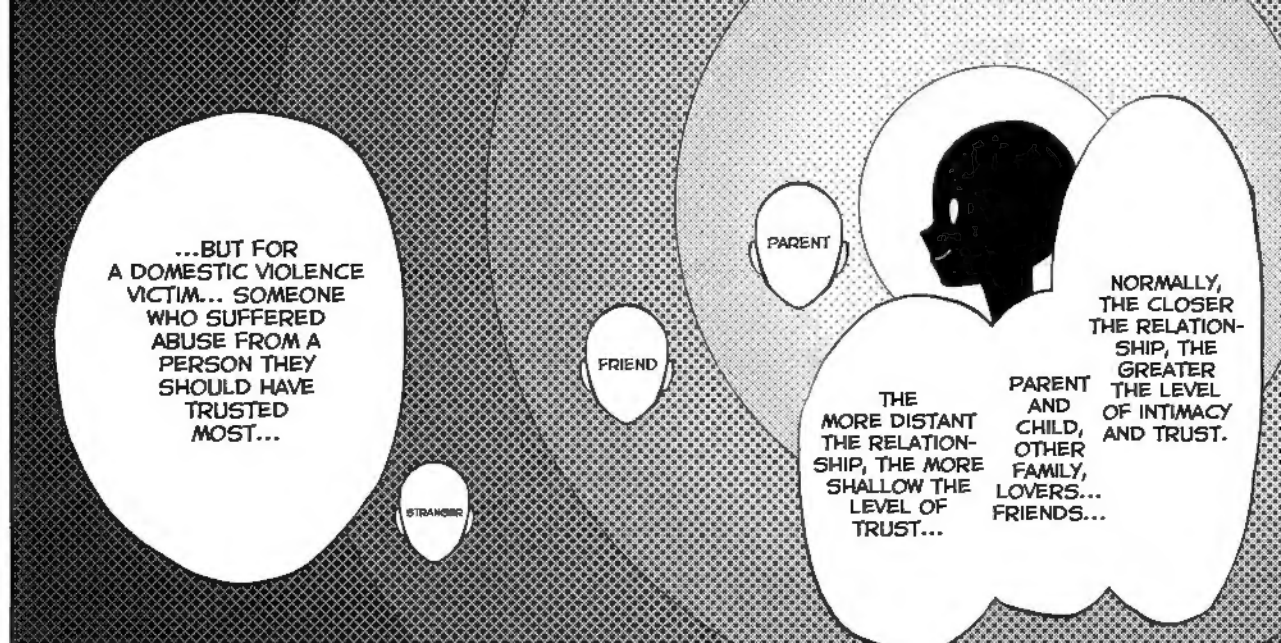
AND
NOT
JUST
PHYSICAL
DISTANCE,

MENTAL
DISTANCE,
AS WELL.



WHEN
YOU BECAME
A MIDDLE
SCHOOLER,
THAT DEGREE
OF CLOSENESS
STARTED
MAKING YOU
UNEASY,
RIGHT?

EVEN A
PARENT
AND
CHILD.





FORCING THEM TO GET ALONG COULD ACTUALLY HAVE THE OPPOSITE EFFECT.

IF ANYTHING, JUST MAKES THEM FEEL CORNERED.

TO THE PEOPLE OF POLARIS, WHO'VE BEEN SO HURT BY INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS THAT THEY FLED FROM THE WORLD, FORCING COMMUNICATION UPON THEM...

JUST AS IT CAN BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE EXCESSIVELY TRYING TO CHEER UP SOMEONE WITH DEPRESSION,

SO YOU GET IT, KEI-TAROU?



IT'S WRONG TO SUDDENLY DEMAND THAT SAME LEVEL OF CLOSENESS FROM OTHER PEOPLE.

I LOVE BEING FRIENDS WITH PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY KIHIRO, SAKIKO, AND TAMAKI.
...BUT,

ONCE... I FORCED MYSELF TO BECOME FRIENDS WITH A SHY KID, WHO LATER TOLD ME THEY WERE GLAD I DID IT...

I UNDERSTAND...

BUT THAT'S TOTALLY NOT THE CASE FOR THEM. IT ONLY HAPPENED TO BE THE RIGHT THING FOR THAT ONE PARTICULAR KID...

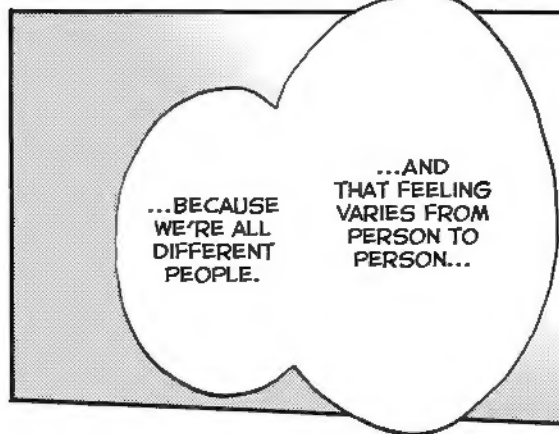
SO I FIGURED IT WOULD BE THE SAME FOR POLARIS...



RIGHT.



YOU'VE
GOTTA PROPERLY
FACE THE PERSON
RIGHT IN FRONT
OF YOU AND
GAUGE THEIR
COMFORT
ZONE...



...BECAUSE
WE'RE ALL
DIFFERENT
PEOPLE.

...AND
THAT FEELING
VARIES FROM
PERSON TO
PERSON...

IN ANY
RELATIONSHIP,
THERE'S A RANGE
OF DISTANCE
SOMEONE FINDS
COMFORTABLE,
WHICH CAN CHANGE
OVER TIME...



EVEN IF
THINGS SEEM
COMPLETELY
FINE FROM
YOUR PERSPECTIVE,
THE OTHER PERSON
MIGHT BE FEELING
UNCOMFORTABLE...

**YOU CAN'T
UNIVERSALLY
CLASSIFY
COMFORT
ZONES
BETWEEN
PEOPLE.**



ALL
YOU CAN
DO IS TAKE IT
SLOW AND
EXPLORE
WHAT WORKS.



@sajshembetdk6he8

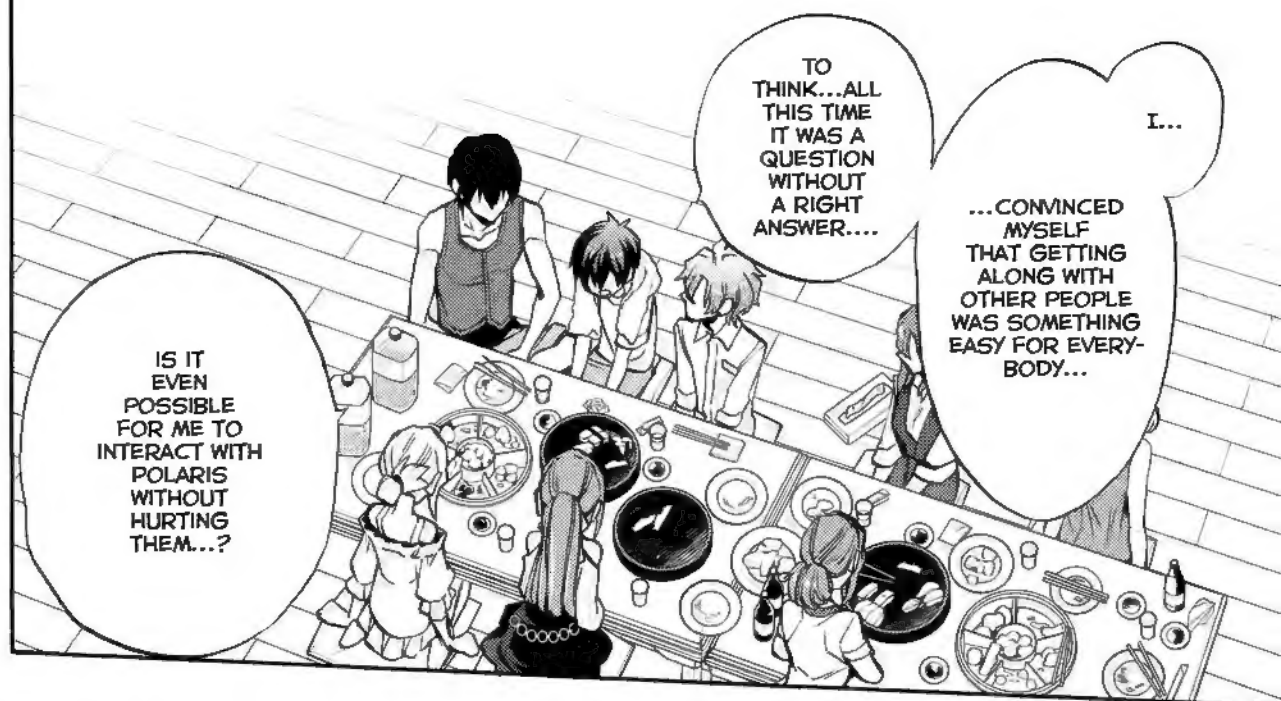


RIGHT,
RIGHT, THEY'RE
TOO CLOSE TO THE
PERSON SO THEY
CAN'T EVEN SEE
THEM CLEARLY.

LIKE
PEOPLE WHO
HAVE A CRUSH
ON AN IDOL, RIGHT?
THEIR SENSE OF
DISTANCE IS SO
SKEWED THEY DON'T
EVEN REALIZE THEY'RE
CREEPING OUT THE
PERSON THEY'RE
ATTRACTED TO.



IT'S EASY
TO STEP INTO
THE PITFALL
OF JUST
ASSUMING
SOMEBODY ELSE
FEELS THE
SAME WAY
THAT YOU DO.

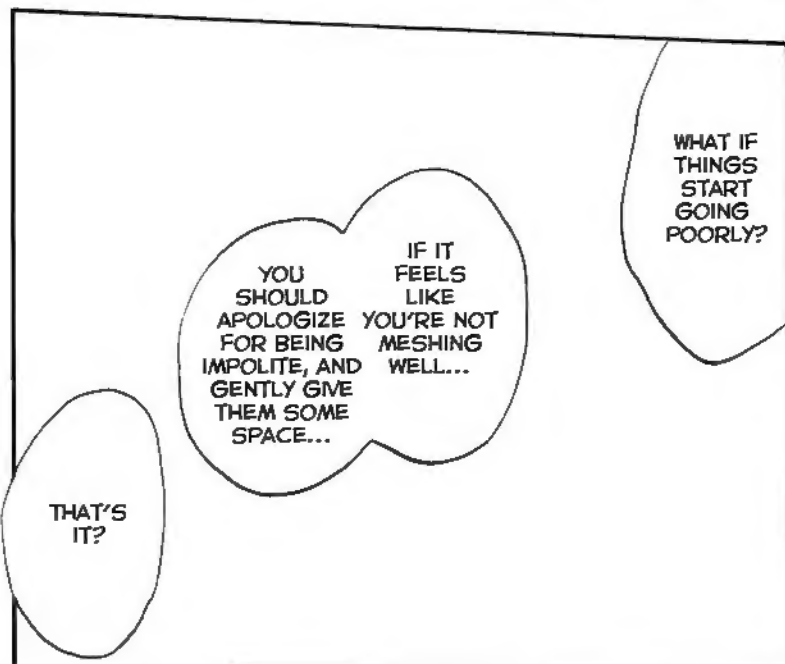


IS IT
EVEN
POSSIBLE
FOR ME TO
INTERACT WITH
POLARIS
WITHOUT
HURTING
THEM...?

TO
THINK...ALL
THIS TIME
IT WAS A
QUESTION
WITHOUT
A RIGHT
ANSWER....

I...

...CONVINCED
MYSELF
THAT GETTING
ALONG WITH
OTHER PEOPLE
WAS SOMETHING
EASY FOR EVERY-
BODY...



THAT'S
IT?

YOU
SHOULD
APOLOGIZE
FOR BEING
IMPOLITE, AND
GENTLY GIVE
THEM SOME
SPACE...

IF IT
FEELS
LIKE
YOU'RE NOT
MESHING
WELL...

WHAT IF
THINGS
START
GOING
POORLY?



ARBITRARY
ONE-SIDED
PERSPECTIVES
ARE THE
FARTHEST
THING
FROM TRUE
UNDER-
STANDING...

THAT'S A
FEELING
YOU
SHOULD
NEVER
FORGET...

THE
MOST
IMPORTANT
THING IS
TO BE
RESPECT-
FUL OF
EACH
OTHER.

...OF
COURSE.

PRINCIPLES,
OPINIONS,
HOBBIES,
TASTES,
CIRCUM-
STANCES,
BELIEFS...

EVERY-
BODY'S
DIFFERENT.

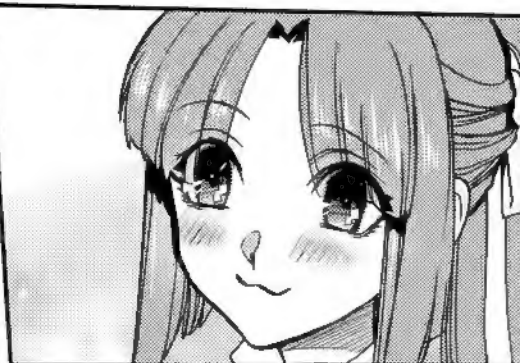
DIFFERENT
STROKES
FOR DIFFERENT
FOLKS, IT'S
A SACRED FACT.

YOU
JUST HAVE
TO ACCEPT THE
FACT THAT THOSE
DIFFERENCES
EXIST...

IT'S
ALL
RIGHT.

YOU'LL
BE ABLE
TO FIND
THE RIGHT
LEVEL OF
DISTANCE TO
HARMONIZE
WITH PEOPLE.

...



Higurashi no Naku Koro ni Rei: Irotoutoshi-hen

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